

Town of Otter Creek – August 8, 2023
Otter Creek Town Hall – E5905 County Road S, Wheeler WI
Regular Town Board Meeting – 7 p.m.

Attendees:

Chair LeAnn Ralph*

Supervisor 1 Cecil Hayes*

Supervisor 2 Bob Bernier*

Clerk/Treasurer Bev Bernier

Patrolman Gary Anderson

Guests, Roberta Preston, Chuck Boyer, Gary Axness, Denise Axness, Randy Simpson, Ashley Gunnufson, Matt Flatland, Matt Preston, Herb Sakalaucks, Doug Owens-Pike

*Board Members

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

The Regular Town Board Meeting was called to order by Chair Ralph at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 8, 2023. Meeting minutes from the 7/11/2023 Regular Board Meeting were not read by Clerk as Ralph and Bob Bernier reviewed the minutes prior to tonight's meeting and agreed that the minutes did not need to be read. **Bernier motioned to approve the 7/11/2023 Regular Board Meeting minutes as presented, Ralph seconded. Motion carried.**

Public Comments – Herb Sakalaucks was present and shared his safety concern on the posting of 690th street during road repair. Per Anderson, the road was not closed overnight, it was closed between the hours of 5:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. The road still needs to be ripped, shouldered, and some blacktop. Will be done this year, by the end of August. Anderson phoned the EMT on Thursday for notification of road closure during the day, he forgot to call on Wednesday. Herb wanted the signs moved so people had more room to turn around. After discussion, it was determined that the town would consider getting more signs.

ATV ordinance – Ashley Gunnufson has signatures, she said there are technically 6 residents on the ATV route. Wayne Tuschl not permanently living at the residence. She is not asking for additional routes, but does not want the route reduced, she is asking for the current route to remain the same. One resident said he has nothing against people using the routes, but he has a problem with ATV/UTVs not being respectful of the law, driving when they want to. They do not take time to educate themselves. This resident lives on a completely closed road, a long way from any county highway, closest is County Hwy S. He has ATV drivers going by every day, this is disrespectful of neighbors and the law. He is asking people to be respectful, learn the laws, and obey them. Just because they can, does not mean they are supposed to.

One resident wants ATV roads open throughout the town. He does not see any reason not to have them all open. Like to see more availability to 4 wheeling. Another resident agreed with this, but dirt roads are a concern. On 670th they come through and spin in circles, but he would like to see a lot of townships open. Another on 730th lives out here because it is quiet. ATV riders like to make noise. If it were quiet, it would not be much of a problem. Another land owner, who does not currently live on 730th, but will be moving out here, is moving out here for the quiet and does not want 730th open, even though he enjoys riding UTV.

Repeal Ordinance #08-10-21-01 ATV/UTV Ordinance and replace with amended Ordinance #08-08-23-01. This Ordinance will go into effect one day after posting/publication. Pursuant to Chapter 985, Wis. Stats. Pursuant to s. 985.02(2), provides the option to publish in a newspaper, post in 3 public places, OR post in 1 public place and on the official municipal website.

Motion to leave the current routes as they are, with the following updates:

*Extend 690th Street from 1058th Avenue to County Hwy N, resulting in modification of bullet 8 route to “On 690th Street at 1090th Avenue to County Road N”.

*Under Section IV – add “ATVs and UTVs must adhere to 35 MPH speed limit or posted speed, whichever is less.”

*Under Section V – B - Remove (B) access to designated routes from residences in the township on undesignated town roads is permitted. Motion by Ralph, second by Hayes, MC.

Propane summer fill - \$1.29/gal - \$403.86 deducted from prebuy balance on hand. Remaining credit balance of \$629.18.

Propane contract for Fall of 2023 – prebuy \$1.52, due 8/31/23. 2022 pre-buy was \$2000 for 1000 gallons. Contract of \$890.82 for 586 gallons = 1000 gallon total on pre-buy. Motion by Hayes to contract for 586 additional gallons, for a total pre-buy of 1000 gallons at \$1.52/gal, less the credit balance on account of \$629.18, for a balance due of \$890.82, second by Bernier, MC.

Consideration of granting a road right-of-way permit for approximately 4,000 feet east from 640th St. in the Town of Tainter on 970th Ave. in the Town of Otter Creek for the 24-7 Telcom fiber optic grant project in the Town of Tainter, south side of 970th Ave., with possible waiver of the right-of-way fee (approximately \$284). Per Gary, issue with culvert put in wrong. Motion by Hayes to grant, second by Bernier, Ralph abstain.

DSPS Conditional Approved Plans Transaction ID DIS-062326841Project: Deepwoods Event Center, Application Type: Building Specific only Plumbing Plan Review

DNR approved bridge crossing & culvert project on Hwy SS, DC reviewing for County permits.

Land Use Permit – Lane Whitted

Zoning Permits –

- Jeremiah Bontrager, shed at N11561 670th St
- Ron Kitchner, trailer house, porch, garage

Specials requests – All Title Services – Owner: Terry and Sharon Secora – 3 parcels – total of 42 acres

Review of culvert project on 690th and possible action to authorize the clerk to apply to Dunn County for bridge aid (application is due August 31). Need rip wrapping, the blacktop and shouldering. Authorize the clerk to apply for the bridge aid. Hayes made a motion authorizing the patrolman and clerk to complete the documentation and apply for bridge aid, second by Bernier, MC.

Report – Hakes Logging overweight permit on 710th (w/required haul route north to N).

Permit update worksheet handed out

Updates from Fred Weber –

- | | | |
|-----------|--|--------|
| ○ 7/18/23 | Long/Boyle: Rough HVAC/Rough Electrical/Rough Construction | Passed |
| ○ 7/19/23 | Waterman: Permit Issued Electrical Upgrade/ Electrical hook-up | Passed |
| ○ 7/20/23 | Knutson: Electrical Hook-up, Electrical Upgrade | Passed |
| ○ 7/20/23 | Long/Boyle: Insulation | Passed |
| ○ 7/24/23 | Woodman: Final Inspection/Occupancy | Passed |

Patrolman Report - Road Work/Equipment. The alternator went out on the tractor, Gary's wife spent two hours getting parts. Put on the agenda for next month. Still need rip wrap and blacktop of \$3,000, need money for salt/sand (about \$6,000). Intersection of 693rd and 1180th, did not get a load of blacktop there, came up short. A load of blacktop costs about \$2,000 with hauling. The painter on Bird's old place, put pipeline culvert on there as the culvert was plugged. This should be his responsibility, starts filling up the ditch. Gary worked in there for a week, he feels the owner should be notified. Brent Carpenter needs a letter notifying to repair his culvert, stop the sand from coming in the ditch. Contact County Land Conservation for information on stopping the erosion. Clerk to send draft letter to Ralph. The Grader has a problem with the electrical system. The front end does not work and keeps blowing fuses. It used to blow a fuse once in a while, and has not worked since the middle of June. Bernier will contact them. Going to start mowing. Culvert on 600th street – Crane's. Been in there since 2005. We put fabric in that culvert. Craig Wirth put it in, Gary assisted. Is there a liability there? Started dipping last year, a lot more this year. Gary will get someone out there to locate the wire.

Treasurer - Review treasurer's report. Motion by Hayes to accept the treasurer's report, second by Bernier. MC.

Public comments – none, see public comments at the start of the meeting minutes.

Auditing of bills for payment – bills circulated and approved by the Town Board.

Any other business

Clerk reviewed the finances.	Equipment Account -	\$60,951.89
	Tax Account -	\$88,047.99
	Checking Account -	<u>\$48,860.93</u>
	Total of all accounts	\$197,860.81

ADJOURN - Bernier moved to adjourn the monthly meeting, second by Hayes. MC. Meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted – Bev Bernier, Clerk/Treasurer

CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS IN ORDER OF CALLING:

Gary Anderson – 715-658-1483;

Bob Bernier – 715-577-6310;

Bev Bernier – 715-658-0131;

Chuck Boyer – 715-600-4149

LeAnn Ralph – 715-308-6336;

Cecil Hayes – 715-577-6334

Town Shop - 715-658-1319;